

WITH THE FARMERS

By Prof. W. F. MASSEY

Friday, September 19, 1913.

Protecting Cowpeas

Seed.

"I am gathering a lot of cowpeas. Can you tell me how to keep the rats from them, and how to prevent the weevils after they are shelled?" The best way to keep rats away is to have the granary made rat proof, and keep plenty of rats. A correspondent recently wrote that sulphur scattered around will keep rats away, and said that one Richmond seedman uses it for this purpose. In storing the peas, scatter moth balls of naphthalene among the peas. These will usually prevent the weevils. But if you find live weevils, put the peas into a close bin or box that can be covered, and then pour a pint of carbon bisulphide in a pan for each 100 bushels and set the pan on top of the peas and cover all up. The chemical will evaporate rapidly and the fumes are heavier than air and will sink through the whole lot and kill every living thing in them. Keep the carbon bisulphide away from any fire, for the fumes will explode even from a cigar.

Oats and Clover.

"In 'With the Farmers,' September 1, I saw it is always best to sow oats with crimson clover for hay, because it cures more easily. I have been sowing crimson clover for the past three or four years, and find it a great improver of my land, which is mostly light sandy soil. I sowed a twenty-acre field in crimson clover and rye last fall, but only half a bushel of rye an acre. I do not like to mix rye with the clover. This piece of land is now in corn, and I expect to get sixty to seventy-five bushels an acre, and if there had been no rye in the clover I believe I could get ten to fifteen bushels more per acre. I want to put this in crimson clover now just as soon as the corn is cut and shocked, and would like to get hay from it next spring. But I do not want to put oats with the clover if they will have a bad effect on the improvement of the soil that results from crimson clover. I cut crimson clover from two fields this spring and made very good hay. Shall I use oats under these conditions?" So far as the improvement of the land is concerned, the pure clover crop will be best. Coming in so early in the season, the crimson clover alone is usually hard to cure properly. I see a great deal of cured all around me, and very poor stuff it usually is, for our people let it lie in the sun and blow, and then they call that hay. Properly cured in cock and barn, it is very good, but it is harder to cure than red clover or cowpeas, and I advised the oats as a means for aiding in the curing. Taking a clover crop off the land will not improve it rapidly unless it is returned in the shape of manure, for the nitrogen remaining in the stubble and roots will not be great. I do not want the crop taken from the soil. I certainly advise the feeding of legume crops rather than using them directly as manure, but I have had so much hay from the crimson clover, cured right that I have come to the conclusion that it is the only legume crop that I would plow under entire. If you can cure it properly and make good hay then use the clover alone. Living in Isle of Wight, I suppose you are interested in hogs, and there is no pasture better for hogs than crimson clover.

Keeping Sweet Potatoes.

"I have a cellar under my dining-room, lined on bottom and sides with concrete to surface of the soil, and with a mortared stone wall to the floor above the surface. Small window east and west and double door in south end. I wish to store sweet potatoes in this cellar this winter. Should they be placed on the concrete or on shelves or in boxes, and what absorbents or wrappings will be needed?" You are in the mountain country, where it gets pretty cold in winter, and the only question is, what will the temperature of the cellar be without artificial heat? I keep small quantities of sweet potatoes in my cellar, but I have in it a hot water boiler that tempers it to a great extent, and am down near the ocean, where it never gets as cold as with you.

Identifying Cowpea Varieties.

"Some credit me with greater powers than I possess. I send two leaves of cowpeas and asks me to tell him from these what varieties of peas he

has. I do not think that any one could tell the names of the varieties from looking at the leaves. The seed of the varieties of cowpeas are very generally well marked and with some exception I would be able to give the name of the variety.

Oats After Corn.

"We are now getting ready to sow oats where we have had corn. Corn was planted on a heavy growth of crimson clover and rye. The rye was so high when turned that it took much of the moisture from the land, and I am confident that the corn crop suffered from it. Will it be necessary to use cottonseed meal or other form of nitrogen on these oats, or will potash and phosphate be sufficient? It is all impossible to get the meat at this time of the year. It would do you good to see the way my cotton is growing. I bought the farm three years ago, and the first year I made four bales of cotton on eighteen acres. Since that time I have been following your instructions, and will be very much surprised if I make less than a bale an acre this year, for it is as high as my shoulders and heavily fruited, and is growing and fruiting right along."

Filling the Silos.

"We have two silos. One we are now filling with corn at the proper stage. For the other have been thinking of letting the corn stand till mature enough to pull the ears and place them where they will cure, and then cut the stalks for the silo. Will this make better feed than dry corn stover, or will it pay better to cut the corn now?" You can gather the ears when well glazed and dried, and they will cure in the husks, and the stalks can be cut and dried, if you run some water on them as cut, for at that stage the stalks will be comparatively dry, and the ensilage will ferment better if some water is used. It will be better feed than dry shredded corn stover, but if you have good corn, cut it as corn and all cut at the proper stage. Having the two silos and needing the grain, it will be all right to make the stover into ensilage.

Keeping Sweet Potato Vines.

"Is there any way to keep sweet potato vines from one season to another? You could make cuttings and root them, and carry them over in a greenhouse, like any other tender plants, but there would be no object in doing it, and it would cost far more than the plants would be worth. With a crop like sweet potatoes that are so easy to increase in the spring, I cannot see any advantage to be gained in carrying them over, which could only be done in a heated greenhouse.

Clover for Potatoes—Shocking Corn.

"I am in the elevated Southwest mountain section. Have a piece of land in crimson clover, which I wish to grow to turn for Irish potatoes next spring. Have been advised to top dress the clover with ground limestone now. Would this damage the potatoes? It is the custom here to top the corn and pull fodder. I have opposed this, and cut and shock my corn. But some of the best farmers say that, owing to the frequent rains, it is hard to gather the corn from shocks, and the shocks do not dry out well. Which is best? Would a top dressing of lime on a pasture sown this spring be of benefit later than in the coast country, where the clover will be all right for them, but I would not apply lime to the clover now, for in sweetening the soil you will have far more danger from scab in the potatoes. Keep on cutting and shocking corn. It is the best way to get the land clear for winter grain. In the coast country some object that the humidity of the climate is against it, and now the same objection comes from the mountains. The fact is that the people who make the objection to you have hardly any of them tried the shocking. Lime applied to grass land will maintain a blue grass sod, and if the land needs lime it is a good place to put it as a dry. But always brush it in with a smoothing harrow. I have applied it with great success to red clover in the early spring.

ILLUSTRATION BIG BROAD STREET

Fireworks and Red Lights Will Tell of Opening of Fashion Week.

Each department of the retail business of Richmond, as represented in the Retail Merchants' Association, which is undertaking to make Fashion Show week a great event in the history of commercial Richmond, has its chairman or head of an active committee. There has been not a little honest and vigorous rivalry among these committees and their respective chairmen, each and all trying to make his own department the greatest in the matter of display and ornamentation, etc. Thus the dry goods fellow has been and is trying to outdo the millinery folks; the clothier is trying to make a better show than the dry goods man; the jeweler is endeavoring to get the best of the hardware man and all the others; and the grocer and the other fellows in all the lines, not excluding the furniture dealer, are all putting forth a great deal of vigor in the effort to make each separate line of trade show some better stunts than other lines. This is all a splendid rivalry that is altogether commendable, and The Times-Dispatch is just hurraying for the best man in the contest, feeling sure that when all are pulling for the best, the result is going to be one of the finest shows that ever came down the Richmond pike, a show that will last from September 23 to September 26, inclusive, and will be a bright letter page in the commercial history of Richmond.

But there is one thing that all of the departments and all of the chairmen are agreed upon, and that is that the whole show shall be immense, and shall start off just right. To that end all of the chairmen have come together and decided that Monday night, September 23, shall be the real general opening, and that it shall be ushered in with fireworks and electric displays, and all the like of that will go far towards making the great opening days of Fashion Show week something long to be remembered.

It has been agreed that Fashion Show week shall really open Monday night, September 22, and that it shall begin at 8 o'clock that night with a grand display of fireworks in the vicinity of the City Hall. Therefore, with a grand discharge of rockets from the vicinity of the City Hall, the show will be on, and the window shades, which will conceal the displays of the enterprising Richmond merchants, will all run up with a simultaneous bang.

Besides the rockets, there will be a further illumination of red lights on every corner. The crowds which will throng the streets next Monday night will see the newest ideas in fall merchandise in every line of business displayed more gorgeously than ever before, and it will be almost like a carnival night in Richmond.

Every day it becomes more apparent that the dry goods merchants, the millinery and men's furnishing stores are not the only people in whose business fashion plays a leading part, and the idea of a general fall opening has appealed to merchants in every line of business. And as a result of the co-operation and enthusiasm of the retailers of the city, the public is to have the merchandise on sale here shown to them all at once and with a lavishness of setting that is sure to inspire every person who goes about the streets with the importance of Richmond enterprise. The men at the back of the whole scheme say that the making of the big opening is simply to show people what they can get here.

Great is going to be the results of Fashion Show week.

BURDEN IS BORNE BY FEW COUNTIES

Alexandria Organization Working for Correction of Inequitable State Assessment.

Alexandria, Va., September 18.—Renewed activity is being made by the Chamber of Commerce in its plans to interest the various commercial organizations throughout the State with a view of having the alleged inequitable State assessment corrected. It is expected that before long those interested will bring the matter to the attention of the State Legislature and will hold a meeting in Alexandria for the purpose of formulating and perfecting its plans along these lines.

There are seventy-one counties in the State of Virginia, out of its 100 which are a loss to the State of \$600,000 annually. This deficit it is hoped to remedy. The burden of taxation, therefore, devolves on twenty-nine counties and seventeen cities.

One hundred and fifty members of the Fraternal Order of Americans from Washington came over to Alexandria to-night and participated in the celebration of the twenty-first anniversary of the organization of Alexandria Council, No. 5, this city. The visitors were met with a band of music and escorted to the hall. During the evening speeches were made by a number of the visitors, together with members of the local council.

OPENING IS ASCENDING.

Roonoke College Students Cordially Welcomed to Salem.

Salem, Va., September 18.—The opening exercises of the sixty-first session of Roonoke College were held in the chapel on Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock. President Morehead presided at the exercises and introduced the Rev. J. Harry Smith, pastor of the Methodist Church, who gave the students a welcome to the social and religious life of Salem and Roonoke. He was followed by Dr. A. B. Greiner, of the class of '93, of Rural Retreat, who is secretary of the Virginia Medical Association.

President Morehead announced that entrance examinations had begun on Tuesday and would be continued on Wednesday and Thursday, together with the classification of students. The regular recitations began on Thursday morning at 8:45 o'clock and continue according to the schedule.

E. D. FOSTER ELECTED.

Clifton Forge, Va., September 18.—At a meeting of the committee on management of the Railroad Young Men's Christian Association, held here to-night, D. D. Foster, chief clerk to J. H. Carlisle, superintendent of the Clifton Forge Division of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, was elected general secretary, and requested to assume his new duties in the earliest possible moment. It is understood that Mr. Foster will accept. He has been identified with the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway for the past twelve or fifteen years, and is highly esteemed here by all classes.

"THE LEOPARD'S SPOTS."

Shall we allow white girls to work under rich negro bosses? "The Leopard's Spots" answers that question. Academy—Matinee and Evening Today.

WANTED

77 Answers to 77 Pictures

Reward for the Finder

\$300 In Cash

The Catalogue contains all the seventy-seven correct titles, by the way. To-day's contest story tells you exactly how to enter the contest game now and get your slice of the \$1,200 in cash awards!

\$1200 IN GOLD

Will be given away absolutely FREE by The Times-Dispatch in its great Booklovers' Contest Game.

You Don't Have to Work for this Money.

You Don't Have to Get Out and Solicit Subscriptions.

You Simply Play a Pleasant, Easy, Fascinating Game.

You Simply Tell the Book Titles to 77 Pictures.

You get all the pictures published to date free with the Catalogue and Answer Book. Catalogue is sold at 35 cents, 40 cents by mail, and it contains all the correct titles to the 77 pictures.

FIRST PRIZE.....\$300 IN GOLD

SECOND PRIZE.....\$200 IN GOLD

THIRD PRIZE.....\$150 IN GOLD

FOURTH PRIZE.....\$100 IN GOLD

There are fifty prizes in all, totaling \$1,200.00 in gold. You start in this great free game to-day. You can win, and easily, too.

The Times-Dispatch's Great
\$1200.00 Gold Booklovers' Contest
Picture No. 55 Date, September 19th.



What Book Does This Picture Represent?
Write Title and Name of Author in Form Below

Title

Author

Your Name

Street and Number

City or Town

TOTAL NUMBER OF PICTURES, 77. Contest began July 27th.

Each day a different picture appears in this space. Cut them out.

Save them until the last picture appears on October 11th. Don't

Read Rules, Daily Story and Special Announcements in another part

of this paper. It will help you win a prize. Extra pictures and

coupons of any date that have appeared may be had at 2c. Enter

to-day without registering your name. Merely Save Pictures and

Coupons as they appear.

ENTER THIS CONTEST TO-DAY.

You can enter contest at any time. Order the paper sent you for three months beginning with issue of day your order is received.

Get in the contest right now. It is just becoming interesting. Don't miss a single picture. Get this paper every day.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily and Sunday by carrier, 65c a month.

Daily and Sunday by mail for three months, \$1.50.

Price of paper per single copy:

Daily, 2c.

Sunday, 5c.

BEWARE OF FAKERS

Who Offer to Sell Worthless List of Titles---They Cannot Help You

How They Work

These fakers generally advertise that for a 2-cent stamp they will send several titles, which, in the opinion of the fakers, will prove correct titles to the pictures. Accompanying the "sample" lists of titles will be a letter advising that for 50 cents, a dollar, two dollars, or more, they will supply lists of titles that will seem to fit the pictures. Don't deal with these sharpers. If they could furnish a list of titles, they would solve the pictures—they would use their own lists and win the prizes. They know no more about the titles than you do.

How to Fit the Ten Starred Titles in the Catalogue to the Ten Circled Pages in the Answer Book

FIRST. Go through the new Contest Catalogue, which is an alphabetical list of book titles with the names of their authors, and from which have been selected the titles to the seventy-seven pictures, and you will find ten of the titles marked for you with a star. These are ten correct titles.

SECOND. Then look in your Answer Book and you will find a large circle on the top of each of the ten pages.

THIRD. The ten starred titles in the Catalogue fit the ten pages of the Answer Book with the circle. Now paste the daily picture in its proper place in the Answer Book, and the ten circled pages will contain the pictures that fit the "stars."

FOURTH. That's all there is to it. All you really have to do is to tell the book titles to sixty-seven pictures.

FIFTH. The ten starred titles in the Catalogue fit the ten circled pages in the Answer Book.

GET AN ANSWER BOOK (It Contains 77 Double Pages) AND 35 PICTURES FREE

You can make ten answers to each picture, yet only need but one copy of each picture.

On the upper page you paste a picture. On the lower section you write from one to ten book titles which you have selected for the picture pasted above.

You save time, labor and expense with an Answer Book, and it helps you to win.

USE THIS ORDER FORM FOR THE ANSWER BOOK.

....., 1913.

Booklovers' Contest Editor,

The Times-Dispatch:

Find herewith 80 cents (75 cents at office), for which deliver to me your Answer Book and six certificates, returnable as the pictures appear in the contest for Pictures Nos. 36 to 70.

Name

Street and No.

City

State

Do not send stamps or silver. Send check or money order.

USE THIS ORDER BLANK FOR CATALOGUE

If you cut this order form, fill it out and send or bring it in with the sum designated, you will receive the Official Copyrighted Contest Catalogue of about 5,000 book titles, and seven certificates redeemable for the first thirty-five pictures in the contest. In the catalogue are all the correct titles to the seventy-seven pictures. Catalogues, 35 cents at this office, 40 cents by mail.

Do Not Send Stamps or Silver. Send Check or Money Order.

Booklovers' Contest Editor,

The Times-Dispatch:

Inclosed find 40 cents, for which send me a Booklovers' Contest Catalogue of about 5,000 book titles and the seven certificates redeemable for the first thirty-five pictures.

Name

Street and No.

City

State

The principal features in connection with this contest are copyrighted by the Booklovers' Contest Co., San Francisco, Cal.

A Word to Business Men

Since I have been editing these two columns for the farmers I have tried especially to put in them just what farmers are wanting to know, and have invited their correspondence. Many of these letters ask me to tell them where to buy certain seeds, implements, etc., involve the writing of a personal letter, for it is not fair to columns any one firm free of cost. Now, to complete the page, reading, we should have the advertisements of the houses that deal in the things that farmers want. Many farmers are now interested in home canning of fruits and vegetables, and they write to me to know where best to buy tin cans. They want clover seed, grain and grass seed, and want to know who sells them, or what not, and want me to tell them where to get them. If the same page that contains my replies to their letters contained the business announcements of the houses that deal in the things they want, the ads. will certainly be read, for there are many cutting out this page and preserving it for reference, and if the ads on the page are in the same line, they will keep the ads, too, for reference, and I will have no hesitancy in referring inquirers to houses that offer what they want and are paying for the ads.

I have written personal replies to 2,826 letters from farmers.

W. F. MASSEY.